

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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the NDP

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1. At the NDP party convention in Halle, a conference took place at which Otto Grotewohl, as well as some Russian officers, were present. The problem was brought up as to how those prisoners returning from Russia who are not avowed members of the SED can be formed into strong Heimkehrer-Aktivs (returnee action groups). These Heimkehrer-Aktivs are to be formed along professional, business, and social lines. The object of these groups, however, is to pick out the career army men and to prepare them in the "School for National Politics" for political work in the NDP.
2. Dr. Otto Korfes in Potsdam has taken over this job. Korfes is at present at the head of the so-called "Central Archives for the Eastern Zone", where he has a file of all these prisoners who have been released, who are being released and who are to be released in the future. He also has a file on all the career officers in the German army, at whom a systematic propaganda for the National Front is to be aimed.
3. Grotewohl officially emphasized, on the part of the SED, the importance of directing the political activity of the NDP toward all former Nazis and soldiers.
4. Otto Juschke, the chairman of the CDU in the Russian Zone, was expressly invited by the SVA to the NDP party convention, in order to make a welcoming speech, but he turned down the invitation.

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